



Southeast Fishery Bulletin

National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Federal Permits Required in the South Atlantic Shrimp Fishery April 11, 2006

Amendment 6 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Shrimp Fishery of the South Atlantic Region (FMP) was approved and implemented in 2005. This amendment established a requirement for an owner or operator of a trawler that harvests or possesses brown, pink, or white shrimp (penaeid shrimp) in or from federal waters off the southern Atlantic states (North Carolina through Florida) to obtain a commercial vessel permit for South Atlantic penaeid shrimp.

Penaeid shrimp vessels must have a permit onboard by **April 11, 2006**. To obtain an application form, contact:

NOAA Fisheries Service Southeast Regional Office
Permits Branch
263 13th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701
Phone: 727-824-5326
Web download: <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov>

Information on the application form consists of the standard information and documentation required for commercial vessel permits. There are no earned income or landing requirements for these permits. A fee will be charged for each application for a permit or a written request for replacement of a permit. The applicable fee would be specified on the appropriate form.

A vessel obtaining a permit for the South Atlantic penaeid shrimp fishery will be required to display and maintain its

official number on the port and starboard sides of the deckhouse or hull and, for vessels over 25 ft (7.6 m) long, on an appropriate weather deck, so as to be clearly visible from an enforcement vessel or aircraft. The official number must be in block arabic numerals permanently affixed to or painted on the vessel in contrasting color to the background. The official number must be at least 18 inches (45.7 cm) in height for vessels over 65 ft (19.8 m) long; at least 10 inches (25.4 cm) in height for vessels over 25 ft (7.6 m) long; and at least 3 inches (7.6 cm) in height for vessels 25 ft (7.6 m) long or less.

NOAA Fisheries Service is dedicated to protecting and preserving our nation's living marine resources and their habitats through scientific research, management and enforcement. NMFS provides effective stewardship of these resources for the benefit of the nation, supporting coastal communities that depend upon them, and helping to provide safe and healthy seafood to consumers and recreational opportunities for the American public.

NOAA, an agency of the U.S. Commerce Department, is dedicated to enhancing economic security and national safety through the prediction and research of weather and climate-related events and providing environmental stewardship of our nation's coastal and marine resources. Through the emerging Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS), NOAA is working with its federal partners and nearly 60 countries to develop a global monitoring network that is as integrated as the planet it observes.

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